

City of Keene  
New Hampshire

HERITAGE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

**Wednesday, May 13, 2015**                      **4:00 PM**      **Keene Public Library, Trustees Room**

**Members Present:**

Louise Zerba, Chair  
Ardis Osborn, Alternate  
Susan D'Egidio  
Katherine Snow, Vice-Chair  
Terry Clark, Councilor

**Staff Present:**

**Others Present:**

**Members Not Present:**

George Foskett (Resigned)  
Rose Carey, Alternate  
John Bemis

**1) Call to Order/Roll Call**

Chair Zerba called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. Roll call was conducted and Chair Zerba welcomed Kevin Dremel.

**2) Approval of Minutes** – March 11, 2015

Ms. Snow made a motion to approve the minutes of March 11, 2015 with the following changes/corrections: Page 2 of 10, change “Hinkle” to “Henkel”. Councilor Clark seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**3) Report of the Demolition Commission** –

Ms. D'Egidio reported on a Demolition Permit for 347 Elm Street that she and Councilor Clark looked at in April. This was a circa 1900 barn which is gone now. Ms. D'Egidio thought the cupola could be saved but the owner didn't appear to be interested. Councilor Clark reported no photographs were taken to document this structure, as the barn was unstable.

**4) Report of the Community Outreach Commission** –

**a. Sunday Socials Summer Concert Series Update & Funding Request-** (Pages 6-7 in the packet)

Ms. D'Egidio presented the event poster for the Commission's review. She and Mr. Dremel discussed locations for the poster to be displayed, and offered copies for other members to distribute.

Mr. Dremel reported this is a five event series; he noted the assistance of KSC in trying to obtain locations such as the President's Mansion. The next event will be held at the Methodist Church; Ms. Carey is taking care of this piece. Ms. D'Egidio reported they are looking for about 15 to 30 people to attend each event. Mr. Dremel indicated advance tickets could be purchased on the website <http://keenemusicfestival.org/>.

Chair Zerba asked about the host paying for the music. Mr. Dremel suggested finding sponsors for this service/music we don't have to pay for. Chair Zerba asked if Commission members would like to make/donate any food items. Ms. D'Egidio offered to make cookies (signup sheet provided).

Chair Zerba distributed Ms. Carey's press release/article for review by the Commission which will be submitted to the Sentinel. Chair Zerba will email these documents to other Commission members. Mr. Dremel noted the radio (Dan Mitchell) also wants to do a 5-10 minute piece. Councilor Clark referred to the 5-10 minute video listed in the responsibilities and suggested someone could go next door and train on the equipment. He suggested taping the whole show for display on Cheshire TV and YouTube. Mr. Dremel indicated he would speak with a videographer he knows. Councilor Clark volunteered to train on the equipment and take the videos.

Mr. Dremel reported the performers are all set. He clarified for Ms. Snow this is a fundraiser for the Summer Knight Chapel. Mr. Dremel also indicated expenses would be minimal, and he doesn't know how much they can expect to take in. The biggest expense will be the bands at approximately \$150 to \$200. As the Parks & Recreation Department is the fiscal agent, Mr. Dremel suggested once the money is collected a Commission member be responsible for getting it to Mr. Bohannon. He noted checks can be made out to the Keene Music Festival; they will cash the checks and turn the funds over.

Addressing who should be invited, Chair Zerba noted she was hoping Ms. Langella could email it to all current/past members of this Commission, the Historic District Commission, Alan Rumrill and his Board members, the Mayor, and City Councilors. Ms. Snow suggested putting it on the Parks & Rec Facebook page; Chair Zerba also suggested the City's Facebook page. Mr. Dremel also reported it was already sent out in the Keene Music Festival's monthly newsletter. Mr. Dremel also noted the intent to schedule the events on the last Sunday of each month. This first event will take place at 82 Court Street, (owner Steve Bragdon) on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Chair Zerba will be responsible to make sure everyone is invited.

Ms. Snow made a motion that the Heritage Commission donates up to \$750 (up to \$150 per event for the purchase of food and paper products) to support the "Sunday Socials" summer concert series hosted in partnership with the Keene Music Festival. Ms. D'Egidio seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Councilor Clark asked if it is within our purview to spend this money on these events. Chair Zerba replied it came through Ms. Purinton so the assumption is that everything is approved.

## **5) Report of the Research Commission –**

### **a. Main Street Historic District Update** – Louise Zerba

Chair Zerba reported the public meeting was held, and attended primarily by residents. She commended Chair Carroll- Weldon and Rhett Lamb for the job they did. Chair Zerba reported the consensus was the people there didn't want any sort of regulations or people telling them what to do. Ms. Snow noted how difficult it was to keep the vocal individuals focused on the topic at hand. Councilor Clark suggested these individuals may not per say be against a Historic District; they are just against any type of government control. He also suggested some of the restrictions could be lightened up a bit. Chair Zerba reported the Committee will be accepting comments until the end of the month; these comments will be discussed at next month's meeting.

**b. Preservation Brochure** – Chair Zerba will contact Ms. Langella to see if Ms. Purinton’s work is available.

**6) Staff Reports** –

**a. Stone Arch Bridge Project Completion**- (Pages 8-9 in the packet)  
Chair Zerba reported the work is done; noting the question remains what is next. Commission members noted the site looks dangerous.

**7) New or Other Business** –

**a. Membership of Commission**: Chair Zerba reported she has submitted the following names to the Mayor as potential members to the Commission: Kevin Dremel and Rick Swanson from the Historical Society. Councilor Clark reported Mr. Foskett’s resignation was accepted at Council last week. Chair Zerba noted she was not informed of Mr. Foskett’s resignation. Ms. Osborne noted her term expired last December, and asked if she should write a letter of resignation to the Mayor, as she has not received any notice from the Mayor’s office. Chair Zerba noted her term expired in December 2012, and she has exceeded the six year maximum. With Mr. Foskett’s resignation Commission membership is down to five (seven allowed).

**b. Preservation Alliance Membership**- (Page 10 in the packet)  
Chair Zerba reported the Commission belongs to this organization and recommends approving the annual renewal. She has received no information on the cost of renewal and it was not included in the request.

Councilor Clark made a motion that the Heritage Commission approves the expenditure of funds for renewal to the Preservation Alliance. Ms. Osbourne seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**8) Adjournment** – Chair Zerba adjourned the meeting at 4:45 PM.

**The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 8, 2015**

Respectfully submitted by,  
Mary Lou Sheats-Hall, Minute-taker  
May 15, 2015